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ABSTRACT

This report describes the work of the American Federation of Teachers (AFT), presenting profiles that describe major professional development opportunities to enhance teacher quality created by the AFT and its affiliates: the Educational Research and Dissemination Program (which links teachers to the research they need); the Beginning Teacher Induction and Mentoring Program (which provides beginning teachers with the help they need); and support programs for National Board Certification through the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (which rewards teachers fairly for excellence). These efforts were made possible by union leadership. A fourth profile describes how union leadership is enabling a professional development design to turn an urban district into a standards-based, high-achieving system. (SM)

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